

SB 116 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Riley

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Action Date: 04/04/17

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 4-0-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Boquist, Monnes Anderson, Olsen, President Courtney

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to honor existing State Parks and Recreation Department (SPRD) access pass issued to active duty military personnel on leave on specific holidays and to disabled veterans, to the extent possible, to permit access to recreation areas on forest lands free of charge.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Creating new process versus using existing pass
- Differences between areas managed by SPRD and ODF

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces original measure.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon offers a wide range of outdoor recreational opportunities, which attracts veterans and other residents. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife currently offers a permanent combined hunting and fishing license for qualifying disabled veterans, and the State Parks and Recreation Department (SPRD) provides free day use and camping at RV and tent sites year-round for disabled veterans and for U.S. Armed Forces active duty personnel on leave on Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day.

Senate Bill 116-A provides similar free access for disabled veterans and active duty on leave, to recreation areas on state *forest* lands, by directing the Oregon Department of Forestry to honor the access pass already issued by SPRD.